

## We Have It All

Fun, Games, Costumes,  
Food, Theatre and Film  
It's PURIM at CSZ  
Saturday, March 6

4:00 pm

**Community Carnival and Raffle**

All of your favorite midway games at the best carnival in town. One night only! Knock down Haman! Send your skee ball into the Hamantaschen! Find your Inner Queen!

There's more! Each winning ticket enters you in the Great Purim Raffle. Win fabulous prizes from neighborhood merchants as we celebrate by drawing lots.

5:15 pm

**CSZ Puppet Players present  
The Purim Story: A Musical**

Relive the Purim story through the incomparable puppet artistry of Larry Wong and the students of Kitah Dalet. Admire our original puppets. Original sets. Original songs. Original talent.

5:45 pm

**World Premiere of A Purim  
Midrash: A Claymation Short**

Sure to be an independent film classic, *A Purim Midrash* puts a queer lens on an ancient tale of love and loss, power and deception, heroism and villainy. Created by the students of Kitah Vav/Zayin. Directed by Shmulik Fishman and Alapai Kim-Michels.

6:00 pm

**Megillah Reading Purim Service**

Shout down Haman with Rabbi Angel and Mark Gershman at the traditional reading of *Megillat Esther*. Dance. Sing. Daven.



## The Rainbow Fund 5764



*Blessed are you YHVH, Source of Abundance, for providing us with the financial and spiritual ability to give. All humanity participates in the flow of riches that come in and go out. May we use our resources well, and may this exchange be fair and equal. Blessed are you Provider of Manna, who enriches us all."*

Judaism and Economic Justice Workshop of Rabbis Natan Fenner and Toba Spitzer, Philadelphia, 1996

### A Training

On Sunday January 18, a group of 25 Sha'ar Zahavniks gathered for an afternoon in the Oneg Room with the intention of launching an Annual Fund for Congregation Sha'ar Zahav. Each one present had thoughtfully made a big commitment – to spend time, energy, and emotion asking other congregants to consider a gift to the Rainbow Fund. We had the pleasure of getting to know one another better, to learn more deeply about the congregation's finances and share our deep and various commitments to the community. We ate fabulous food prepared by Prudence Carter and Nurit Robinson. We received information, education, and inspiration from Rabbi Angel, Rachel Timoner and Arthur Slepian.

### A Phone Call

You may have received a phone call or a visit from another congregant asking you to consider making a gift to the Rainbow Fund. During this eight-week campaign, over 50 Sha'ar Zahav members will be asking for your time to talk about making a gift to support Sha'ar Zahav. Please DO talk – tell them about your concerns and your vision for CSZ. The person calling you has a fair amount of information that

may answer your questions. If they can't answer a question, they know who can. And please DO treat the person who calls you kindly – each one is committed to CSZ for their own particular and interesting reasons.

If you are not contacted by March 15, it's probably because we don't have a good phone number for you. Please forgive us this oversight and call the office at 415/861-6932. We would love to have correct information about you and your donation to the Rainbow Fund would be most welcome.

### A Party

By the time you read this, an enormous number of us will have helped to transform the Rainbow Fund from a strategic idea into a tangible reality. Sha'ar Zahavniks (and their mothers, children, partners) have stuffed envelopes, catered tasty treats and made more phone calls than they have ever before in their lives. And many of us will have met one another for the first time, or deepened a "knowing" that may have been friendly and *shabbesdik* but has a bit more substance now.

So please come celebrate your work and the generosity and commitment of our congregation.

**Rainbow Fund Celebration  
Haydallah Party**

Saturday, March 27

5:00 – 7:00 PM

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

Lovely food. Fabulous people. Including you. Bring the family. And a friend would be ok too. Maybe your mother.





## From Rabbi Angel's Study

### What is the L'Taken Seminar

Asked what the function of a rabbi is, Rabbi Hayim of Brisk replied: "To redress the grievances of those who are abandoned and alone, to protect the dignity of the poor, and to save the oppressed from the hands of the oppressor."

For Rabbi Hayim of Brisk, standing up for righteousness and speaking out for justice are pillars of the rabbinate. For me, Rabbi Angel of San Francisco, there is a third pillar upon which my rabbinate is built: educating and empowering the next generation to repair the world under the realm of the Eternal – *L'taken olam b'malchut Shaddai*.

I have always loved hanging out with teenagers. Currently I'm the lucky rabbi of twenty-three of them. I have just returned from my tenth year in a row and Sha'ar Zahav's 4th annual teen trip to the Religious Action Center to participate with high school students from across the country in the *L'Taken Seminar*.

What is the *L'Taken Seminar*? An intensive four-day *kallah*, in Washington, DC, focused on Jewish values and social justice. Throughout our time we are immersed in:

#### **Torah - Jewish Learning**

Learning Jewish social justice values, the legislative process, and the political and the social reality we need to transform. Every *L'Taken* seminar covers 5-7 different issue areas in a variety of interactive formats. These issues, ranging from global AIDS to reproductive rights, from Israel to environmental and economic justice are selected based on the current legislative agenda. In developing our Reform Jewish perspective on these matters, we study and discuss biblical, rabbinic and contemporary Jewish texts.

#### **Avodah - Prayer**

Connecting holiness and justice through creative worship services.



#### **Gemilut Chasadim - Action**

Going to Capitol Hill and discussing the issues we have just studied by lobbying our Senators' and Representatives' offices.

As in the past, this year was a great success in numerous ways. Our membership can take tremendous pride knowing that we are empowering the next generation to make our presence and our unique point of view seen and heard in the government. The people we meet on Capitol Hill always seem curious and refreshed to hear from a liberal religious point of view and ours is outstanding. We are both the medium and the message when it comes to securing LGBT civil rights.

Each year, I watch our young people courageously introduce themselves as members of a congregation that was founded by gay and lesbian Jews no longer willing to be read out of Jewish community, history, torah and life. My heart fills with hope. Each year I watch our students represent us and it is awesome.

I always come home from this trip exhilarated and inspired having shared the Judaism I cherish and affirm, the Jewish values and principles I regard as eternal and transcendent. Too many believe that the world of the spirit should be separated from the world of politics. But as Jews, it



is our mandate to infuse all aspects of life with spirituality. Too much cynicism has eaten away at our faith. But the spiritual activist never despairs while understanding that goals are not achieved all at once.

#### ***L'taken olam b'malchut Shaddai:***

To repair the world under the realm of the Eternal – this is our life's work.

If you are interested in an adult weekend with the Religious Action Center check out their website at <http://www.rac.org/conf-prog/consult.html>.

According to Rav Yosef Dov Soloveitchik, z'l distinguishes between fate and destiny. Fate capriciously casts each of us into a particular dimension of life that we cannot control. Destiny, on the other hand, "is an active existence in which we confront the environment into which we've been cast. "Our mission in this world is to turn fate into destiny, and existence that is passive and influenced to an existence that is active and influential."



## The Jewish Gaily Forward

March 2004  
Volume 27, Issue 8

The Jewish Gaily Forward is published 11 times a year (monthly with a combined July-August issue) by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 290 Dolores St., San Francisco, CA 94103, 415/861-6932. Email: [office@shaarzahav.org](mailto:office@shaarzahav.org). Permission to reprint with attribution is hereby granted.

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Note that articles reflect the opinions of their author and not necessarily those of the congregation or its committees.

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# More RAC Memories



## President's Column

### Whose Shul Is This, Anyway?

At Sha'ar Zahav we come together as a dynamic and caring community, enriched by our faith and our traditions, with much that binds us together. And from the vantage point of Middle America, we probably look like a homogeneous group, pun intended. However, among us, often the differences are more apparent. When we think about what we want from our shul, we tend to conceive of our needs as related primarily to those characteristics that set us apart from each other. We are gay men or lesbians, homosexuals, heterosexuals, bisexuals or transgendered. We are single or partnered, with children or without, younger or older. We come from a remarkable variety of class and income backgrounds, and our financial positions represent a broad range from very low income to very wealthy. We come from most every state in the U.S., (especially the state of Brooklyn), and some from outside the country. Some of us loved the synagogue we grew up in, others could not tolerate theirs, and some did not arrive at a synagogue until well into adulthood. Our CSZ Passover Haggadah reminds us "How varied are our lives!" and that we come together from "diverse concerns and struggles," suggesting political differences as well.

Indeed, our membership represents a broad range of political viewpoints. Some are supporters of Gavin



Newsom and others of Matt Gonzales. Some of us are passionate about Howard Dean, others for John Kerry or Joe Lieberman, or perhaps the Green Party candidate. Some are fervently opposed to our country's military action in Iraq, while others support it, with every nuance of opinion in between represented as well. On the topic of Israel, our community embodies a multitude of opinions, often with profound differences.

Our differences often have one thing in common: whether related to class, income, gender or politics, they can be difficult to talk about, with attempts at dialogue often generating more heat than light. The situation is not helped by the all-too common view that, however I define myself, "the synagogue is being run predominantly by people different from me." This view often seems to be shared simultaneously by people at opposite ends of the spectra of class, income or political beliefs, and of widely different demographics.

Here are some thoughts about all of the above:

First, however difficult it is to talk about things about which we disagree, it is important that we do talk about them. We need to create settings in which we can engage each other with respect for our differences, and for each of us to approach others with an open mind that is as ready to learn, as it is to teach. At the most recent meetings of both the Va'ad and the Executive Committee, we had the occasion to tackle some of the most potentially inflammatory issues in our community, related to our financial differences, and yet the discussions did more to bring us together than to divide us. I think it is important that we look for ways to engage more of the congregation in these important conversations.

Second, sometimes our ties to the overall CSZ community can be strengthened when we create a special bond within it with those whom we have the most obvious affinity. Belonging to a chavurah within CSZ can be a great experience. Today we have the Baby Chavurah, the Progressive Chavurah, a budding Women's Chavurah, and others under discussion. As we grow and become more diverse, these groups can be a source of a more intimate sense of community.

Finally, the answer to the question posed by the title of this column is, of course, obvious. The shul belongs to all of us-not by accident, and not automatically, but because we work to make it so. It is important work, and there is room for everyone.

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## Introduction to Judaism course

by Rita S. Losch

Every Thursday evening since November 13, a dozen of us, Jews and non-Jews, singles and couples, Congregation Sha'ar Zahav members and non-members, gay, straight, and otherwise, have been gathering in the CSZ chapel for the "Introduction to Judaism" course taught by Rabbi Bridget Wynne. We are enthusiastic in our participation, because our commitment to learning about Judaism is strong, the subject matter is fascinating, and Rabbi Wynne teaches in such a clear and engaging manner. When she asks a question, she really listens to your answer. She has the gift of loosely weaving together members of the class, who are indeed various. She also brings supporting texts and materials to class, demonstrating the joy of Judaic research. Our teacher communicates her love for Jewish life; she writes on the slate in honey, so we can see the sweetness of knowledge.

We are learning what it means to be Jewish. Our first meeting, we learned about Jewish views of God. We saw that, though God is one, approaches to God are numerous and diverse. We then discussed prayer and liturgy. We learned that praying can be a kind of *avodah* or work, a means of healing the world. We learned that the fixed direction of *keva* was once somebody's *kavanah*, or personal intention.

To study Shabbat, we had a delicious potluck Shabbat dinner, where we were joined by Rabbi Angel and learned more about each other in a lively discussion of the values we personally intend to support on the Sabbath. We went on to study Jewish holidays, the Jewish life cycle (with its liminal moments like birth, bar/bat mitzvah, marriage, and death), and Jewish history. Subsequent topics will include Jewish daily life, the people Israel, the land of Israel, and varieties of Judaism (Reform, Conservative, Orthodox, Reconstructionist, Hasidic). Our last meeting will be on February 26.

This course is a great deal: superb instruction, a long and rich semester of twelve class meetings, and textbooks including:

*Introduction to Judaism: A Sourcebook; A Short History of the Jewish People: From Legendary Times to Modern Statehood; Gates of the Seasons: A Guide to the Jewish Year; Tanakh: A New Translation of the Holy Scriptures*; and several handouts. The class is offered regularly; keep an eye out for it!

## CSZ to Host Israeli Photo Exhibition

From April 6-22, the Sha'ar Zahav Fine Arts and Israel Committees are pleased to host, "Our Country, Faces of Israel," an exhibition by critically acclaimed Israeli photojournalist Alex Levac.

"Our Country" brings together a collection of thirty 28" x 39" framed black and white prints from the daily life, faces, and culture of Israel. The photographs, published in the Israeli daily newspaper *Ha'aretz* over the past decade, combine documentary and impressionist techniques to unveil deep insights into daily events.

Levac captures singular events that may never be seen again and mundane encounters that could otherwise pass by without much thought. The culture of Israel is so extroverted, the streets so open, so revealing and laden with rich social symbols, allowing Levac to unmask human beings in their most common state.

Critics claim that Levac's photographs in "Our Country" are imbued with humor, good mood and empathy for his compatriots, in moments when they are spontaneously involved in small, unexpected everyday events.

We hope that you will view this exhibit at CSZ. More information on the exhibit can be found at [www.estadao.com](http://www.estadao.com).



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## A Garden of Earthly Delights:

A Queer Journey through the Music and Poetry  
of the *Song of Songs*

Co-led by Rabbi Camille Shira Angel and Michael Sarid  
Wednesday, March 31, 7 - 9 pm

"If the Bible is holy, then the *Song of Songs* is the Holy of Holies," wrote Rabbi Akiva. Traditionally read during Passover, the Bible's queerest and most mysterious book is also its most erotic book, and its beautiful poetry has inspired lovers, artists and musicians throughout the ages. In this multimedia workshop, we will study selected texts from the *Song of Songs*, and then raise our voices together in song. Just bring your voice, a desire to learn, and an open heart — no experience necessary! Please RSVP to Melanie Kushnir at x305 or at [mkushnir@shaarzahav.org](mailto:mkushnir@shaarzahav.org) no later than March 25.

## Congregation Sha'ar Zahav and Project Inform Present

An Evening with Author and Activist Suzy Becker  
Tuesday, March 16, 7 - 9 pm

Please join CSZ and Project Inform for an evening of discussion, schmoozing, snacks and a book reading with Suzy Becker. Suzy Becker's first book, *All I Need to Know I Learned from My Cat*, spent months on *The New York Times* bestseller list. She was a White House Fellow under Clinton, New England Business Owner's youngest-ever Woman of the Year, and the founder/organizer of the country's first AIDS bike-a-thon, Ride FAR. Yet for years, this ambitious and accomplished woman suffered terrifying seizures in the middle of the night. She wanted to believe that it was nothing more than stress—especially after receiving a prestigious fellowship from Radcliffe—but once a friend witnessed one of the seizures, denial was no longer an option. Surgery to remove a mass in her head soon followed. Scary enough... but not compared with what happened next. She lost her powers of speech and the sense of humor that defined her. *I Had Brain Surgery What's Your Excuse* by Suzy Becker is the irreverent, inspiring story of her year-long recovery. Using her

drawings as a brilliant second (and third and fourth) voice in the narrative, Becker has written a book that is, as *New Yorker* cartoonist David Sipress has described it, "a totally original mix of cartooning and memoir." Suzy's book will be available for purchase at the event.

## Jews and the News

A three-week course with Rabbi Camille Shira Angel and Dr. Alan Karras

Wednesdays March 17, April 21 and May 12  
7 - 9 pm

In this three-session class, we will be exploring the interplay between Jewish ethical teaching and current events. International current events will be the primary focus, although local news events will be discussed as well. One topic will be The War on Terrorism. We will discuss Jewish teachings on war as a way to evaluate this contemporary problem. There is no charge for CSZ members, \$36 for non-members. Please register by March 12. Contact Melanie at x305 or [mkushnir@shaarzahav.org](mailto:mkushnir@shaarzahav.org).

## Talmud for Busy People

Friday, March 19

Noon - 1 pm

\* off-site in the Flood Building, Room TBA  
870 Market Street at Powell

Have you always been interested in exploring the "Oral Torah," however found that because of work and personal commitments, you just don't have the time? Not to fear. We are bringing the Talmud to you! Join Rabbi Camille Shira Angel monthly for lunch (bring your own, we'll provide beverages and snacks) and dialogue from Noon - 1 pm (you've gotta eat, right?) at the downtown office of Tony Harris. This exciting monthly opportunity provides an introduction to the study of Talmud from a liberal perspective. We explore fascinating passages that deal with defining the rights of the individual, specifically focusing on the modern day ethical questions that face us as Jews. These sessions are open to Sha'ar Zahav members and their guests. All are welcome. If you have any questions, or to RSVP, please contact Melanie at x305.

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—Diana Witt & Linda Collins




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## Please Be in Touch With Me

I am eager to be in touch with all members of the CSZ family whenever there are occasions of joy or sadness in your lives. Where there is a death in the family, please call me as soon as possible. We very much want to be there with you at a time of grief.

*Rabbi Camille Shira Angel*





# Pinat Yeladim O'mishpachah

Children and Family Corner



## Baby Chavurah

Sunday, March 14, 10 - noon

Bring those under-twos out to play, sing and commune with like-minded babes and their parents. Join us for potluck brunch, playtime and socializing. This month we meet at the synagogue. Please bring your baby and a vegetarian dish. Older siblings are welcome, as are nonmembers. Baby Chavurah meets the second Sunday of each month.

## Family Kabbalat Shabbat

Friday, March 12, 6:15 pm

Meet, eat, sing and celebrate Shabbat with CSZ families and then stay for Friday night services. Families with children of all ages are encouraged to come. Dinner is vegetarian potluck; please bring a dish to share. No RSVP required. Be a part of the *ruach* (spirit) of our community and invite friends and family to join you. Shabbat Shalom!

## Tot Shabbat

Saturday, March 20,  
10:30 - 11:30 am

Come celebrate Shabbat with your tot. Bring your 2- to 5-year-olds for singing, prayer, storytelling, crafts and Jewish family fun with Sandra Menachem, Early Childhood Education Specialist. Younger siblings and nonmembers are welcome.

## Kadimah

### Read-a-thon Succeeds

Kadimah students raised over \$2100 (and counting) in this year's Kadimah read-a-thon. Over half of Kadimah students participated in the Read-a-thon, tracking all the books they read from Simchat Torah to Hanukkah. Friends and family sponsored students by the book or for their total effort, honoring their learning with donations to Sha'ar Zahav. Each participating student was rewarded with a Kadimah Read-a-thon bookmark and nine students won a read-a-thon raffle prize. Many thanks to Ben & Jerry's on Castro Street

and Books Inc. on Market Street for their generous prize donations and to Laureen Kim for organizing the fundraiser.

## Kadimah Class

### Spotlight: Ge'avah

*Ge'avah* means pride. On a recent Shabbat morning *Ge'avah* students could be found in the oneg room with their parents making their way through Tu Bishvat learning stations. In one corner Sean was constructing a tree out of legos. In another corner Eli was completing the Tu Bishvat song he and his mom just made up to the tune of Twinkle Twinkle Little Star. Elsewhere families were learning about trees and thinking of ways we could help the earth.

Earlier in the morning, puppet friend Shlomo the rabbit, with the help of *Ge'avah* teacher Vlada Teper, read this week's story, *The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein. Music specialist Karen Segal led the families in Tu Bishvat singing. Parents studied rabbinic text on Tu Bishvat with family education consultant Liz Jaroslaw. Their children worked on a project that brings together Jewish holidays, a core element of this year's *Ge'avah* curriculum.

*Ge'avah* students have their parents study with them a few times a year. Family education days such as these help bring parents into Jewish learning and support them in extending their Jewish practice at home. They are one way of building a partnership for Jewish learning between home, school and synagogue. The day ended with a gift of a pot, soil and parsley seeds to take home. A ready-made family Tu Bishvat planting activity that also anticipates Pesach. This was another way of extending Jewish learning and a focus on the Jewish year cycle into the home.

## News from the ECE

(Experiment in Congregational Education)

After two years of developing a vision of Kadimah's future, our first program pilots will be arriving in the classroom this

spring. Kitah Hey (grades 5 and 6) will be the first locus of innovation. Under the leadership of Kadimah parent Debbie Levy, a design team of parents and others have worked together with Kitah Hey teacher Micah Morris to create a day of learning for Kitah Hey families. The Kitah Hey Family Shabbaton will be an extended day of learning following Kadimah-led services on March 20 focused on the *parashah* of the day. This intensive learning experience is being preceded by three classroom sessions taught by design team members. The design team has been studying and planning together, exploring possible linkages between adult and child learning, including bringing adult members into the classroom as teachers, creating both parallel and joint learning opportunities for adults and children. This project also explores one way of bringing together Shabbat ritual and learning in the context of Kadimah.

Our second program, now entering its first phase of development, is a month-long experiment in theme-based and project-based education slated for the month of May. This May all of Kadimah will study the theme of Israel: the land, with students working in mixed age grade clusters. Each cluster will work on a four-week project. This project is also being directed by a design team made up of adult members, Kadimah staff, and a consultant funded by the Bureau of Jewish Education. There will be opportunities for each participant to teach in the newly designed program.

The Children's Education Board (CEB) looks forward in March to creating opportunities to learn more about these ideas and discuss them as a community, even as we begin to try them out in our classrooms.

Contact Sue Bojdak,  
Director of Family and  
Children's Education,  
(415/861-6932 x302 or  
educator@shaarzahav.org)  
for more information  
about any of these programs  
or to RSVP.



# Social Action Connection



by Susan Lubeck, co-chair

I am thrilled to welcome Sara Haber as the incoming co-chair of Social Action. Sara's insight and generous spirit have already enriched many efforts and committees, including the Va'ad, and now she is supporting our efforts toward tikkun olam. Sara is wonderfully approachable. If you don't already know her, feel free to introduce yourself. She can also be reached at [sara.haber@finisar.com](mailto:sara.haber@finisar.com).

You can join us! The Social Action Committee meets three to four times a year. Join us on March 25 at 7:10 pm to shmooze, eat pizza, dream up new projects, and strengthen existing ones. Our 7:10 start time allows those who wish to attend Mincha services beforehand. For more information and to RSVP: [susanlubeck@aol.com](mailto:susanlubeck@aol.com), 415/641-4129.

## Passover Food Drive

March 25-April 5, and April 14-31

Come join CSZ in performing an easy and very important mitzvah. Bins will be in the lobby to collect donations. Please donate whatever you can—even one item is greatly appreciated. This makes a great tikkun olam project for children. Preferred products: canned tuna in water, canned beef stew, canned chili, canned pasta sauce, boxed macaroni and cheese, peanut butter in plastic containers, Gatorade or similar sports drinks in plastic bottles, 100% juice in plastic containers, cans or boxes, supplement bars, soy or rice milk in aseptic packages, canned vegetables, canned fruit in juice, rice in one pound bag or box and dry pasta in a bag or box. Contact Patricia Lin at 510/527-8127 or [princeucb@aol.com](mailto:princeucb@aol.com).

## NCLR GALA

April 24

The National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR) does groundbreaking work on behalf of equal rights for LGBT people. (See [www.NCLRights.org](http://www.NCLRights.org) for more information.) The Gala draws a crowd of 2000 LGBT folk and our best friends. Kate Clinton emcees—she is quite funny, and the program is always moving,

honoring activists and NCLR clients who are working for our rights and dignity. Tickets are \$200 per person, however you can attend for \$25 or so as a volunteer, which is easy and fun. To join a Sha'ar Zahav table or help sponsor one, contact Lonnie Weiss at 415/255-1641 or [l.weiss@comcast.net](mailto:l.weiss@comcast.net). To volunteer, contact Dena Zaldua of NCLR at [Zaldua@NCLRights.org](mailto:Zaldua@NCLRights.org), or phone 415/392-NCLR.

## Rebuilding Together

April 25 (Time TBA)

Join with other Sha'ar Zahavniks for one of our most popular service opportunities. Over the course of a day you will help renovate the home of a low-income, elderly or disabled San Franciscan or a nonprofit facility. For more information, contact Laura Lowe at [Llowe@landam.com](mailto:Llowe@landam.com).

## Bisexual Panel

May 1, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Part of our series on LGBT diversity, this discussion, featuring CSZ members, will explore bisexual experience, identity and politics. What's it like to be bi? What's the meaning of bisexuality for people in long-term monogamous relationships? What's it like to be bi at CSZ, now and in the past? How does one come out as bisexual? Havdallah will precede the discussion. Contact AJ Turpen, [ajsparkles@mac.com](mailto:ajsparkles@mac.com).

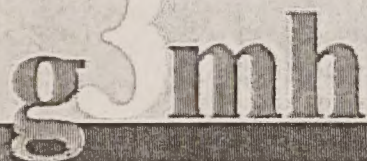
## Every Wednesday

Dinner with homeless neighbors at Most Holy Redeemer Church at 18th and Diamond in the Castro. Arrive any time between 4 and 9 pm and look for Larry Wong of Sha'ar Zahav ([masdvorchid@yahoo.com](mailto:masdvorchid@yahoo.com)), or Ron, the volunteer coordinator. You will be warmly welcomed!

## Kadimah-led Services:

Saturday, March 20, 10 am

You won't want to miss this terrific opportunity to daven with the youth of our community. From the youngest members of our religious school to those b'nei mitzvah veterans, our students will be sharing their torah with us at this special twice a year event. You will be energized and inspired. Please come and support our kids.



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## Annual Officer and Va'ad Nominations

CSZ will be electing officers and Va'ad (Board) members at our annual meeting on May 23. All officers except the president are elected for a one-year term. Our president, Arthur Slepian, will continue to serve the second year of his two-year term. We will be electing four at large Va'ad members to serve three-year terms.

The nominating committee prepares a slate of candidates for election at the annual congregational meeting. We are now actively seeking suggestions for candidates to fill these positions. In preparing the slate of candidates, we typically look at committee chairs, and active members who share the congregation's commitment to Jewish learning, diversity and service to the community. While individuals are not selected to represent particular demographic groups, we strive to have a board that mirrors our diversity as a community.

We welcome and encourage your suggestions for candidates, as well as self-nominations. Congregation members may also run for

a position by petition. The deadline for these submissions is Wednesday, March 31, 2004. Please contact nominating committee chair Howard Steiermann (415/695-9155 HMSinsf@aol.com) or any of the committee members (Ray Bernstein, Alan Gordon, Lisa Katz, Laura Lowe, or Elizabeth Schaffer) with your suggestions or questions.

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## Want to be the First to Know The News?

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For more information,  
contact Prudence Carter  
(pruc@sbcglobal.net)

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# Donations

## Children's Education Fund

Phyllis and George Mintzer  
in memory of Marion Behrens.

## General Fund

Isaac Abrams.

James Carlson

in honor of the naming of  
Hannah McIver.

in honor of Rabbi Lappe weekend.  
in memory of Lillian Freedman and  
Irving Friedman.

Tiela Chalmers and Hershey Hirschkop  
in memory of Phyllis Abadzolgo and  
Sonia Goldfine.

Estate of Burton Cohen.

Jonathan Funk and John Arnold  
in memory of Bernice Wiseman.

Carl Grunfeld.

Sara Haber and Beth Sousa  
in memory of Celia Haber.

Alex Ingersoll

in honor of the naming of  
Hannah McIver.

Batya Kalis

in honor of Bob Morelli's welcoming  
into the covenant.

Matthew Levine.

Joseph and Lois Piade  
in honor of Jeff Piade's Bar Mitzvah  
anniversary.

Jeffrey Sherman

in memory of Jay Shlachter and  
Sadie Newman.

Arthur Slepian and Gerry Llamado

in honor of the naming of Susan  
Tubessing and Sarah Nathe's  
granddaughter, Hannah Claire McIver.  
in honor of Drew Parker-Rose and  
his new job.  
in honor of Rachel Timoner's  
acceptance into Rabbinic School.  
in honor of Joe Hample's acceptance  
into Rabbinic School.  
in honor of Charlotte Halloran-Couch  
becoming Bat Mitzvah.

Elizabeth Stark

in honor of High Holiday Services.

David Stein

in honor of Scholar-In-Residence  
weekend.

## Inclusive Liturgy Fund

Batya Kalis

in honor of Lea Salem and  
Lisa Ochs new home.

## In-Kind Donation

Ron Edelman.

## Library Fund

Neil Hart and David Wasserman  
in memory of Rose Fishman.

## Music in the Mishkan

Jessie Ap'neva and Nina Wouk.

Phil Charney.

Rena Frantz and Ora Prochovnick.

Batya Kalis.

Rose Katz.

Ron and Ruth Miguel.

Phyllis and George Mintzer.

Janis Portal.

## Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Phyllis and George Mintzer  
in memory of Charlie Lourie and  
Tatia and Zora French.

## Read-a-thon

Claudia Bernard and Howard Herman.

Suzanne Bojdak and Debra Yates.

Julie Dorf and Jenni Olson.

Lynn and Jerome Frantz.

Bernice Frantz.

Rena Frantz and Ora Prochovnick.

Joan Goldman.

Hank Gordon.

Kim and Justyn Haveson-Lezin.

Debbie Levy.

Ron Lezell.

Alan Michels and Laureen Kim.

Carolyn Pines and Judy Schwartz.

Ammiel and Payah Prochovnick.

Ethel Regan.

Elizabeth and Michael Schaffer.

Paula Schwartz.

Marc Wernick.

Nancy Windesheim and Eric Zigas.

Alisha Yates.

Donna Yates.

## Birthdays

1 Arthur Slepian

1 Jo-Ellen Kaiser

2 Mark Franko

3 Gabriel Blaik

3 Shelley Adler

3 Howard Herman

3 Craig Shear

4 Randy Blaustein

5 Stephanie Godt

5 Elias Rose



6	Kevin Stein
7	Arlene Singer
8	Amy Cunningham
8	Phyllis Mintzer
8	Ann Biderman
8	David Couch
8	Ziggy Gimnicher
9	Nancy Igdaloff
9	Dana Katz
10	Stephen Shotland
10	Dana Vinicoff
10	George Mintzer
11	Jessie Ap'neva
11	Miranda Petrillo
12	Jerome Geffner
12	Hershey Hirschkop
13	Mary Schroeder
13	Michael Frank
13	Scott Rutherford
15	Jeffrey Davidson
15	Falyn Sokol
16	Geri Kahn
16	Tracey Berliner
16	Alice Prussin
17	Rami Kripke-Ludwig
18	Ann Bauman
18	Garry Schermann
18	Daniel Golinski
20	Carol Barnett
20	Kathryn McHenry
21	Jeffrey Shuman
21	Mike Abramson
22	Ellen Novogrodsky
22	Ezra Barth-Rogers
22	Talia Barth-Rogers
24	Lucy Bernholz
24	Andrew Ramer
24	Abigail Weissman
25	Hilda Rosenfeld
25	Aimee Durfee
25	Randall Weiss
26	Craig Persiko
26	Lilah Rose Angel
27	Rebecca Doctors
27	Jacob Warsaw
27	Joanne Kapsack
28	Giovanni Raff
28	Michael Hulton
29	Bob Gutterman
29	Zoe Steele
29	Ira Hirschfield
30	Tony Harris
31	Zola Crowe Rosenfeld
31	Mia Crowe Rosenfeld
31	Ryan Gruschka Powers



## Condolences

Steve Wiesner, on the death of his uncle, Alex Magar.

Neil Hart, on the death of his aunt, Rose Fishman.

Lyssa Friedman, on the death of her uncle, Irving Friedman, and on the death of her grandmother, Lillian Freedman.

Lonnie Weiss, on the death of her uncle, Frank Spiegel.

Richard Allman, on the death of his family member, Ira Lansky.

Mike Kurokawa and Paul Fishman, on the death of their mother, Voni Bauer Kurokawa.

Mike Klayman, on the passing of his great-aunt, Freda Shapiro.

## New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained the following new members this month. A warm welcome to the most recent people to join our family:

Lyn Stein

Esther Ehrensaft and Richard Oh

We are grateful to see our congregation grow. It is up to all of us to help our new members feel welcome as they become active participants in our community.

## Classifieds

### PSYCHOTHERAPY:

A safe place to talk about life transition, relationship turmoil, emotional upheaval, existential crises... or simple, everyday concerns. Jody Reiss, LCSW (#15289). 415/401-9482

### HEBREW/TORAH TROPE

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### ALL THINGS MACINTOSH:

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## Oneg, Flower and Childcare Sponsorships



1/9

Bimah flowers were sponsored by Jay Davidson in honor of Andrew Ramer and their friendship that has spanned 40 years.

1/16

Bimah flowers were sponsored by Lisa Szer in memory of Sylvia Schlosberg, grandmother of Aarin Ivriah Schlosberg.

Friday Night Oneg was sponsored by Larry Wexler in memory of his grandmother Rosalie Siegel.

1/23

Bimah flowers were sponsored by Batya Kalis in memory of Royal Kalis.

Friday Night Oneg was sponsored by Susan Tubbesing and Sara Nathe in honor of the naming of their granddaughter Hannah McIver.

Friday Night Childcare was sponsored by Jeff Friedman in honor of Serafina Persiko Benjamin.

1/30

Bimah flowers were sponsored by Ron Edelman in memory of his grandmother Louise Seidler.

## Anniversaries



6 1 Eileen Lynette and Charlene O'Neill

6 Tiela Chalmers and Hershey Hirschkop

11 Mark Oliver and Steven Polsky

15 Bernard Choden and Lois Scott

22 Andrew and Michele Williamson

23 Paul Whitmore and Miryam Sas

24 Geraldine Barr and Maxine Epstein

31 Jessie Ap'neva and Nina Wouk

## Yahrzeits

7 Jamie Rosen

7 Isabel Fishman

10 Paul Nemrow

16 Theodore Mendonca

20 Robert Coffman

26 Michael Lipson

28 Neill Rosen

31 Marvin Steele

## Naches



Ora Prochovnick received the Bar Association of SF 2003 Award of Merit for extraordinary contributions to the landlord/tenant field of law and her tireless efforts as a volunteer attorney. She was the only individual to earn this award.

Judith Holiber, Kim and Jacob Warsaw on the birth of their daughter and sister Rachel Leah Warsaw on December 7.

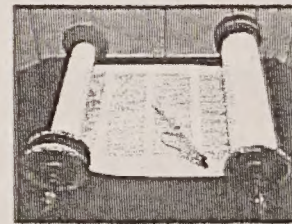
Lisa Ochs and Lea Salem on the purchase of their first home.

Deena Lahn and Mary Schroeder on the birth of their son, Harold Joseph Lahn-Schroeder. Harry was born on Wednesday, January 21 at 2:19pm.

Grandparents, Susan Tubbesing and Sarah Nathe and parents, Laura and Brian McIver on the naming of Hannah Claire McIver during Shabbat services on January 23.

## Sha'ar Zahav Gift Shop

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## Music in the Mishkan

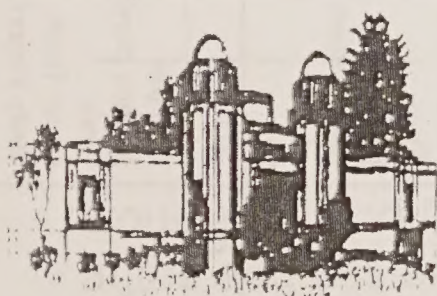
Sunday March 21, 4 pm

Music in the Mishkan ends its fifth fabulous season with a concert on Sunday, March 21 at 4 pm. The centerpiece of the program will be selections from the sacred Jewish music of Italian Jewish composer Salamone Rossi. Rossi was the most celebrated composer of the Italian Renaissance. He worked for the Duke of Mantua, where he was a prolific writer of music for feasts, weddings and church services.

But Rossi was also an observant Jew, and he set much of the Jewish Shabbat Service to music. In fact, in 1589, Rossi was the first Jew to compose, publish and perform polyphonic settings of the synagogue liturgy for mixed choir. Acclaimed soprano Ruth Rainero and violinist Randy Weiss (both CSZ members) will be joined by tenor Daniel Hutchings, baritone Tim Krol, and cellist Victoria Ehrlich, in a performance of Rossi's Jewish liturgical music. A stunning setting of the *Mourner's Kaddish* will be included.

The concert will also feature English composer Ralph Vaughn-Williams' *Along the Field*, a ravishing setting of eight poems by A. E. Housman for soprano and violin, as well as Maurice Ravel's lyrical *Duo for Violin and Cello*.

Join us for this unique musical event at CSZ. Music in the Mishkan director Randy Weiss promises a good time for all!



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## Synagogue Information

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

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office@shaarzahav.org (email) • <http://www.shaarzahav.org> (web)

### CSZ Staff

#### Rabbi

Camille Shira Angel (x301)  
• [rabbianangel@shaarzahav.org](mailto:rabbianangel@shaarzahav.org)

#### Office Manager

Steven Angelides (x304)  
• [steven@shaarzahav.org](mailto:steven@shaarzahav.org)

#### Program Director

Melanie Kushnir (x305)  
• [mkushnir@shaarzahav.org](mailto:mkushnir@shaarzahav.org)

#### Director of Children's and Family Education

Sue Bojdak (x302)  
• [educator@shaarzahav.org](mailto:educator@shaarzahav.org)

#### Kadimah Head Teacher

Phyllis Mintzer

#### Rabbi's Assistant

Gabby Volodarsky (x310)  
• [gabby@shaarzahav.org](mailto:gabby@shaarzahav.org)

#### Officers

President, Arthur Slepian  
(415/452-9143)  
[cszpres@pacbell.net](mailto:cszpres@pacbell.net)  
Vice President, Rose Katz  
Vice President, Alex Ingersoll  
Treasurer, Karen Schiller  
Recorder, Drew Parker-Rose

#### Va'ad Members

Lisa Katz (ex officio)  
Marianne Balin  
Barbara Cymrot  
Ron Edelman  
Tony Harris  
Leslie Kane  
Gail Ludwig  
Ron Miguel  
Rachel Timoner  
Marc Wernick

Members wishing to contact any Va'ad member or committee chair are invited to obtain his or her number from the synagogue office.

Member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the World Congress of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Jews

### Committee Chairs

*Adult Education*, Ron Edelman and Joss Eldredge  
*Baby Chavurah*, by committee  
*Bequests and Donations*, open  
*Bikkur Cholim*, open  
*Book Group*, Mark Mackler  
*Building and Grounds*, Beth Sousa  
*Bylaws*, Howard Steiermann  
*Children's Education Board*, Howard Herman  
*Cemetery*, Open  
*Dues*, Tiela Chalmers  
*East Bay Chavurah*, Ida Kuluk and Larry Wexler  
*Endowment Fund*, David Stein  
*Experiment in Congregational Education*, Dan Bellm  
*Finance*, Karen Schiller  
*Fine Arts*, Barbara Cymrot  
*Fund Development*, Marianne Balin and Tony Harris  
*Gift Shop*, Jeff Rubin  
*Israel Committee*, Miki Goralsky and Steve Mazer  
*Kasher/Connection*, Kelly Cytron and Geri Kahn  
*Leadership Development*, Diana Buchbinder  
*Library*, Bernard Schertzer  
*Long-Range Planning*, Claudia Bernard and Geoff Benjamin  
*Membership Outreach*, Geoff Benjamin  
*Newsletter*, Prudence Carter  
• [pruc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pruc@sbcglobal.net)  
*Outreach*, Prudence Carter  
*Past Presidents' Council*, David Gellman  
*Personnel*, Jeff Sherman  
*Public Relations*, Marc Wernick  
*Rabbi Liaison*, Ora Prochovnick  
*Ritual*, Steve Weitz  
*Social Action*, Susan Lubeck and Sara Haber  
*UAHC National Liaison*, Mike Rankin  
*UAHC Regional Liaison*, Daniel Chesir  
*WCGLBJO Liaison*, David Gellman  
*Web and I.T.*, Drew Parker-Rose

**Bikkur Cholim:** If you or a friend who is a member of Sha'ar Zahav is ill in the hospital or at home, and would like to have a member of the Bikkur Cholim Committee call or visit, please notify the synagogue office.

## Sponsor an Oneg Shabbat!

Sponsoring the oneg Shabbat following services is a lovely and generous way to commemorate a special occasion. Please call the CSZ office for more information.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 Adar 7	1 8	2 9	3 10	4 11	5 12	6 13
9:30 am B'nei Mitzvah Mentor Brunch 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service 7 pm Queer Torah Study Project	4 pm Midweek Kadimah 5 pm Most Holy Redeemer 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service 7 pm Newsletter Committee	6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	8:15 pm Shabbat Services led by Rabbi Angel and Rachel Timoner	9 am Torah Study 10 am Shabbat Services led by Ora and Tsipora Prochovnick 4:30 pm Purim Carnival 6:45 pm Purim Service
7 14	8 15	9 16	10 17	11 18	12 19	13 20
Purim 4 pm Rainbow Fund Telethon 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service 7 pm Torah Trope Class	6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service 7 pm Queer Torah Study Project	4 pm Midweek Kadimah 5 pm Most Holy Redeemer 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service 6:30 pm Va'ad meeting	12 pm Tenderloin Lunch 6:15 pm Family Shabbat Dinner 7:30 pm Shabbat Service led by Nathan Robinson and Joe Hample	9 am Torah Study 9:30 am Kadimah 10 am Shabbat led by Dan Bellm, Rabbi Yoel Kahn, and Charlotte Halloran-Couch 12 pm Madrichim meeting
14 21	15 22	16 23	17 24	18 25	19 26	20 27
10 am Baby Chavurah 11 am Committee Chairs Annual Calendar Coordination 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service 7 pm Keshet Committee	6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service 7 pm Queer Torah Study Project	4 pm Midweek Kadimah 5 pm Most Holy Redeemer 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service 7 pm Jews in the News	6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	7:30 pm Shabbat services led by Kabbalat Shabbat Ensemble	9 am Torah Study 9:30 am Kadimah 10 am Shabbat Services led by Kadimah and Rabbi Angel 10:30 am Tot Shabbat 12 pm Kitah Hey Shabbaton
21 28	22 29	23 30	24 Nisan 1	25 2	26 3	27 4
4 pm Music in the Mishkan 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service 7 pm Queer Torah Study Project	4 pm Midweek Kadimah 5 pm Most Holy Redeemer 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service 6:30 pm Ritual Committee 7:10 pm Social Action Committee	12 pm Talmud for Busy People 7:30 pm Shabbat Service led by Paul Cohen and Lyssa Friedman	9 am Torah Study 9:30 am Kadimah 10 am Shabbat Services led by Andy Fyne 5 pm Rainbow Fund 5764 Celebration
28 5	29 6	30 7	31 8			
6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service 6:30 pm CEB meeting	6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service 7 pm Queer Torah Study Project	4 pm Midweek Kadimah 5 pm Most Holy Redeemer 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service 7 pm Song of Songs class	<b>March Deadline: Monday, March 1, 5pm</b> <b>Articles</b> Please submit your articles as a Word attachment via email to: pruc@sbcglobal.net. <i>No late</i> <i>submissions will be accepted.</i>		
			<b>Advertising</b> To place a display or classified ad, call the office.			



Dear Friend of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav:

We are pleased that you are on our mailing list for our monthly newsletter, the Jewish Gaily Forward (JGF). A copy of our March issue is enclosed.

We are now distributing the newsletter primarily electronically, via e-mail. We very much want to make sure that you continue to receive the JGF and stay in contact with our community. Please fill out the information below and mail it back to us in the enclosed envelope or fax it back to us at 415-861-6081.

Alternatively, you may complete the form online at:  
<http://www.shaarzahav.org/friends/> or send us your information by email to [friends@shaarzahav.org](mailto:friends@shaarzahav.org).

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